



This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the aboveidentified application:

## **Listing of Claims**

Claims 1-30, 34 and 36 (Previously Canceled).

Claims 31-33, 35 and 37 (Canceled without prejudice).

Subb)

Claim \\$8 (New): A digital information coding apparatus, comprising:

- an input unit, arranged to selectively input first digital information data that one sample is expressed with N bits and second digital information data that one sample is expressed with N bits;
- b) an encoder, arranged to encode the first digital information data to generate third digital information data that one sample is expressed with M bits (M<N);
- c) a converter arranged to convert the third digital information data generated by said encoder into fourth digital information data that plural samples are expressed with N bits, wherein said converter converts the third digital information data into the fourth digital information data by combining plural samples of the third digital information data; and
- d) an error correction unit arranged to selectively add an error correction check code to the second digital information data and the fourth digital information data,

said error correction unit performing a common addition processing irrespectively of the second digital information data and the fourth digital information data.

Claim 39 (New): An apparatus according to claim 38, wherein said encoder encodes the first digital information data to be encoded by differential pulse code modulation.



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Claim 40 (New): An apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the second digital information data is a television signal in which a video signal and an audio signal are time-division multiplexed.

Claim 41 (New): An apparatus according to claim 38, further comprising a recording unit, arranged to record the data processed by said error correction unit on a recording medium.

Claim 42 (New): An apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the fourth digital information data being inputted in an amount less than the first digital information data during a predetermined period of time.

Claim 43 (New): A digital information coding method comprising the steps of:

selectively inputting first digital information data that one sample is expressed with N bits and second digital information data that one sample is expressed with N bits;

encoding the first digital information data to generate third digital information data that one sample is expressed with M bits (M < N);

converting the third digital information data generated in said encoding step into fourth digital information data that plural samples are expressed with N bits, wherein said converting step converts the third digital information data into the fourth digital information data by combining plural samples of the third digital information data; and

selectively adding an error correction check code to the second digital information data and the fourth digital information data, said error correction check code adding step performing a common addition processing irrespectively of the second digital information data and the fourth digital information data.